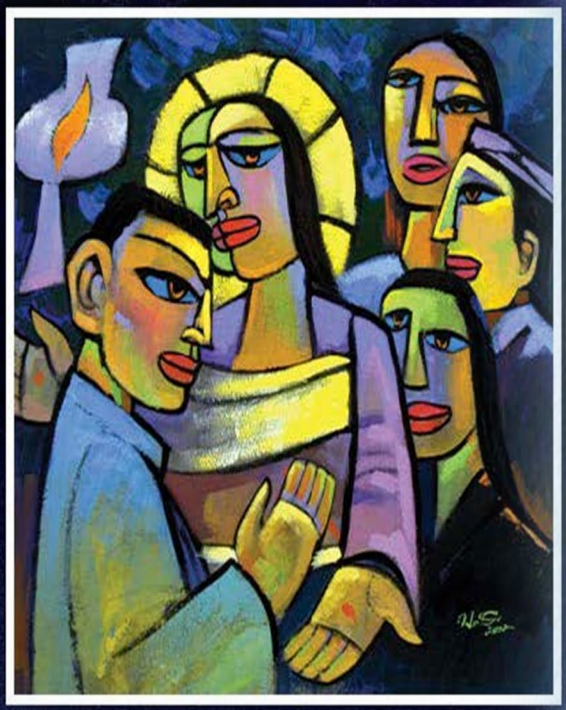
DO NOT DOUBT BUT BELIEVE

JOHN 20:27



Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Ypsilanti, MI
April 12, 2026 – Second Sunday of Easter

OUR MISSION
GATHERING TO GROW IN FAITH, LOVE, & SERVICE THROUGH CHRIST

Worship Key
P: Pastor
A: Assisting Ministers
C: Congregation

THE GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.
C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
P: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!
C: Amen.

P: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.
Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.
P: Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.
You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us, the Huron and Raisin Rivers, Lakes Erie, Michigan, and Ford.
Blessed are you.
C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys.
We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.
We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you and help us to be a blessing to others!
C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

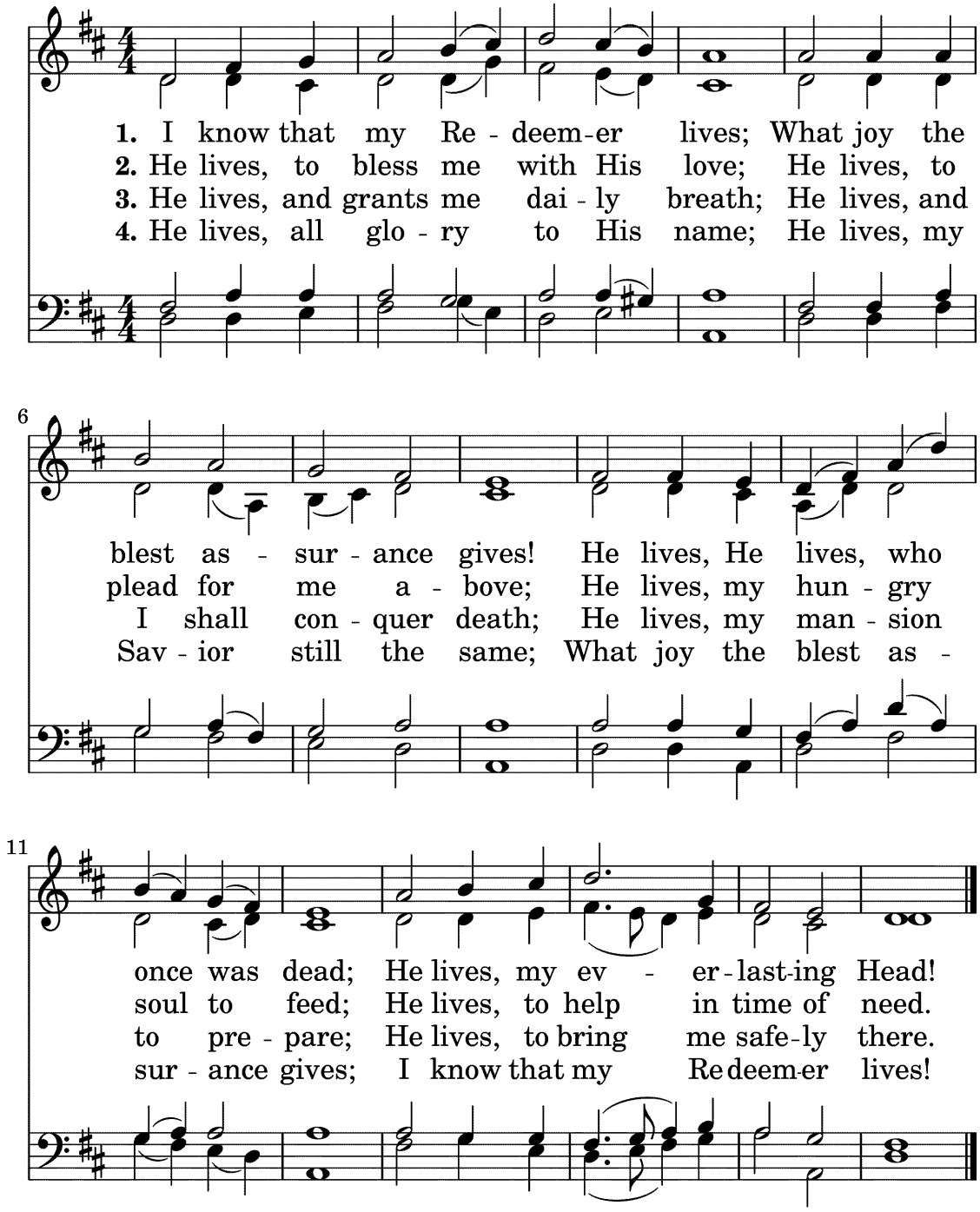
P: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.
C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN — ELW 619

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives!"



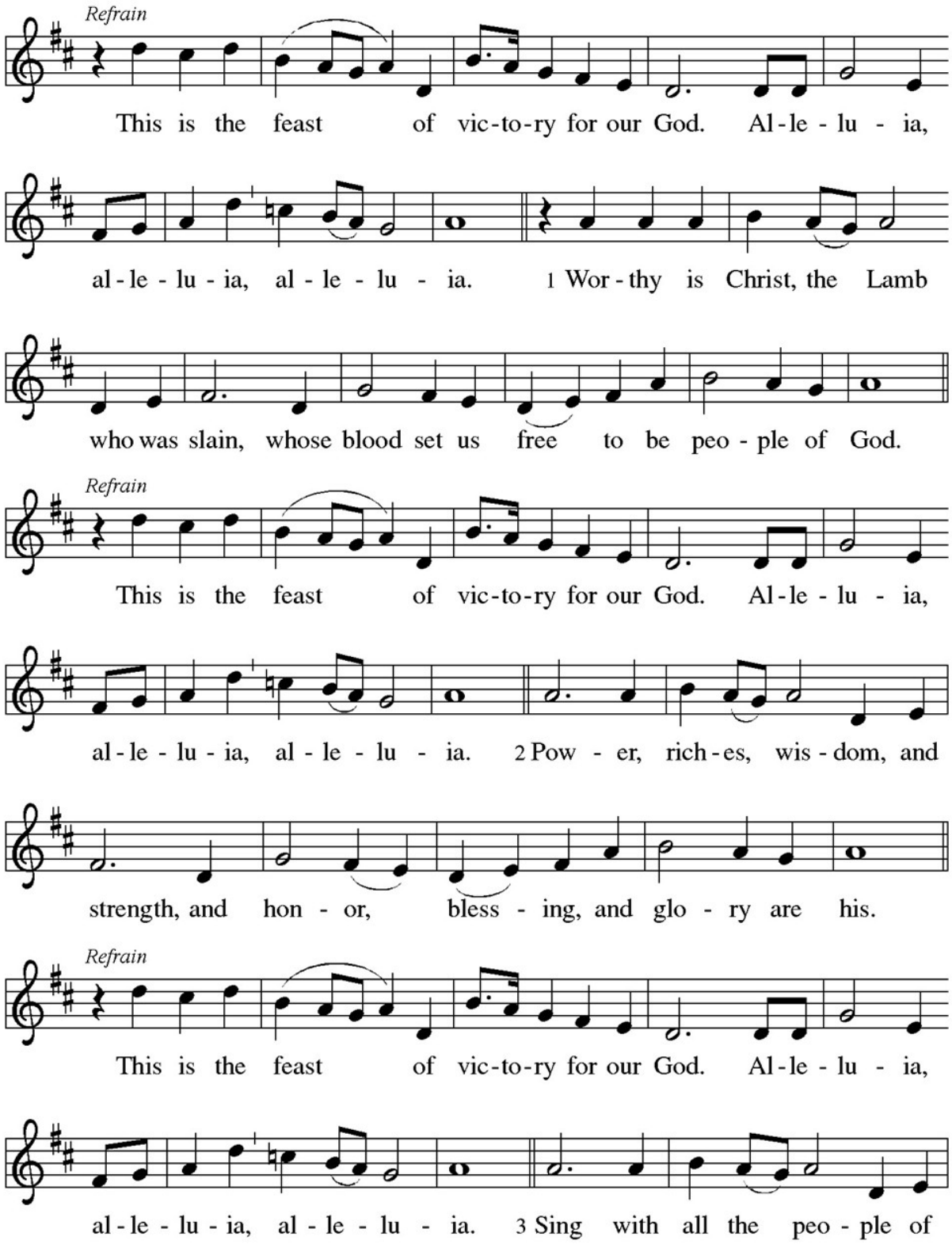
African American Heritage Hymnal 276
Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-1799
Tune (DUKE STREET, LM): John Hatton, c.1710-1793

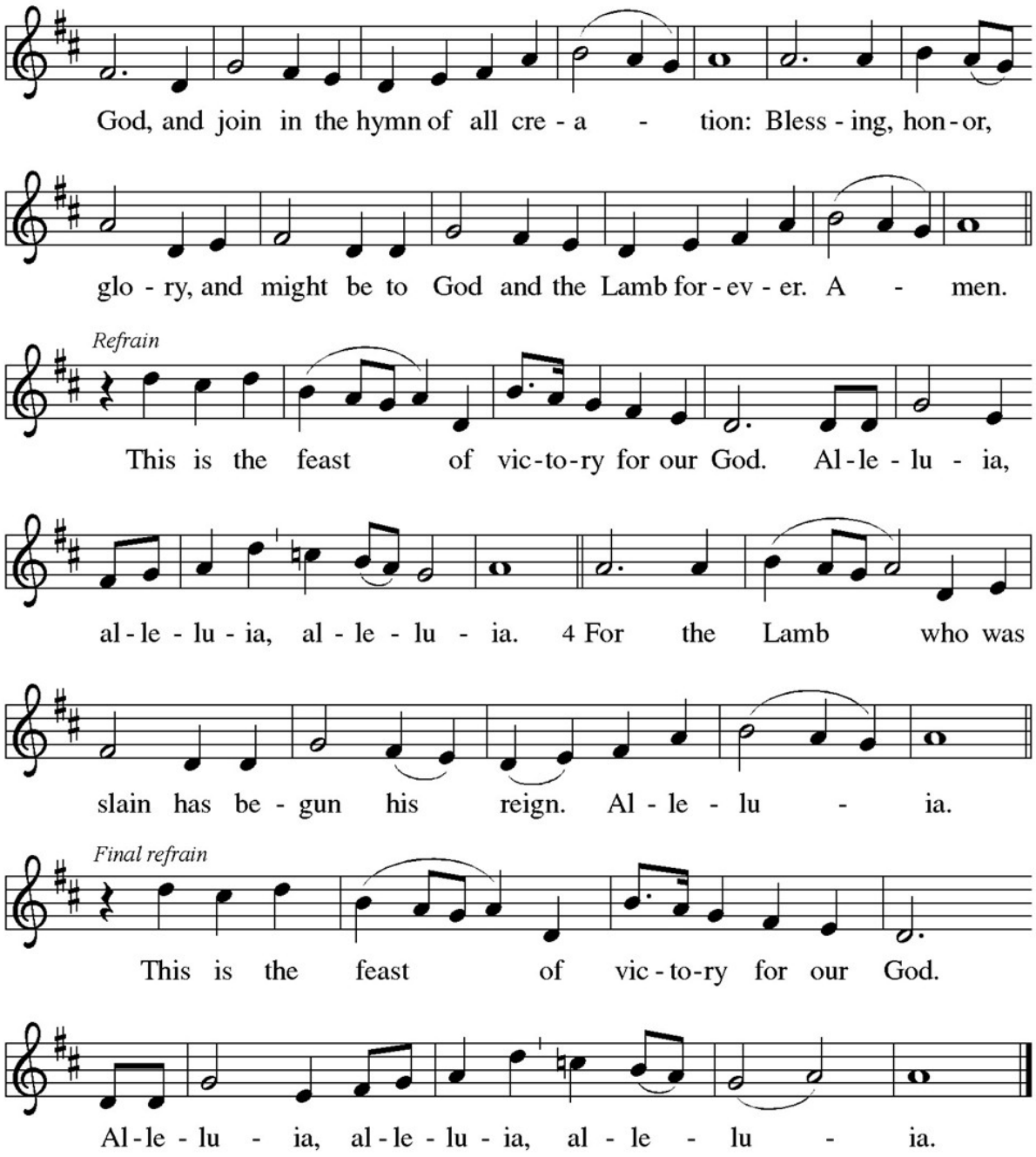
GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE





PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING – Acts 2:14a, 22-32

After the Holy Spirit comes to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to his death according to God's plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned.

A: A reading from Acts.

14a Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the
crowd]: 22 "Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man
attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did
through him among you, as you yourselves know 23 this man, handed over to you
according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed
by the hands of those outside the law. 24 But God raised him up, having released
him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its
power. 25 For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
26 therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.
27 For you will not abandon my soul to Hades
or let your Holy One experience corruption.
28 You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

29 "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he
both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30 Since he was a
prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one
of his descendants on his throne. 31 Foreseeing this, David spoke of the
resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

'He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

32 "This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

A: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM – Psalm 16

P: [1] Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."
C: [2] All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.
P:[3] But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.
C: [4] I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names upon my lips.
P:[5] O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.
C: [6] My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance.
P:[7] I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.
C: [8] I have set the LORD always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.
P:[9] My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.
C: [10] For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the pit.
P:[11] You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

SECOND READING – 1 Peter 1:3-9

This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.

A: A reading from First Peter.

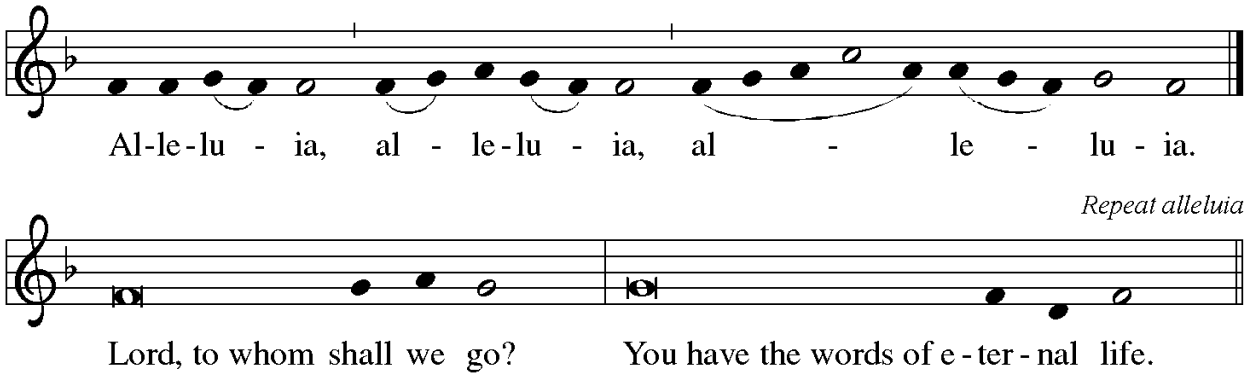
[3] Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead [4] and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, [5] who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. [6] In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, [7] so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. [8] Although you have not seen him, you love him, and

even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, [9] for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

A: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



GOSPEL – John 20:19-31

The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.

P: The Gospel according to John.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[19] When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." [20] After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. [21] Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." [22] When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. [23] If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

[24] But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them

when Jesus came. [25] So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

[26] A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." [27] Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." [28] Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" [29] Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

[30] Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. [31] But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S TIME — Rev. Joshua Rinas

A special message for children.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTURE

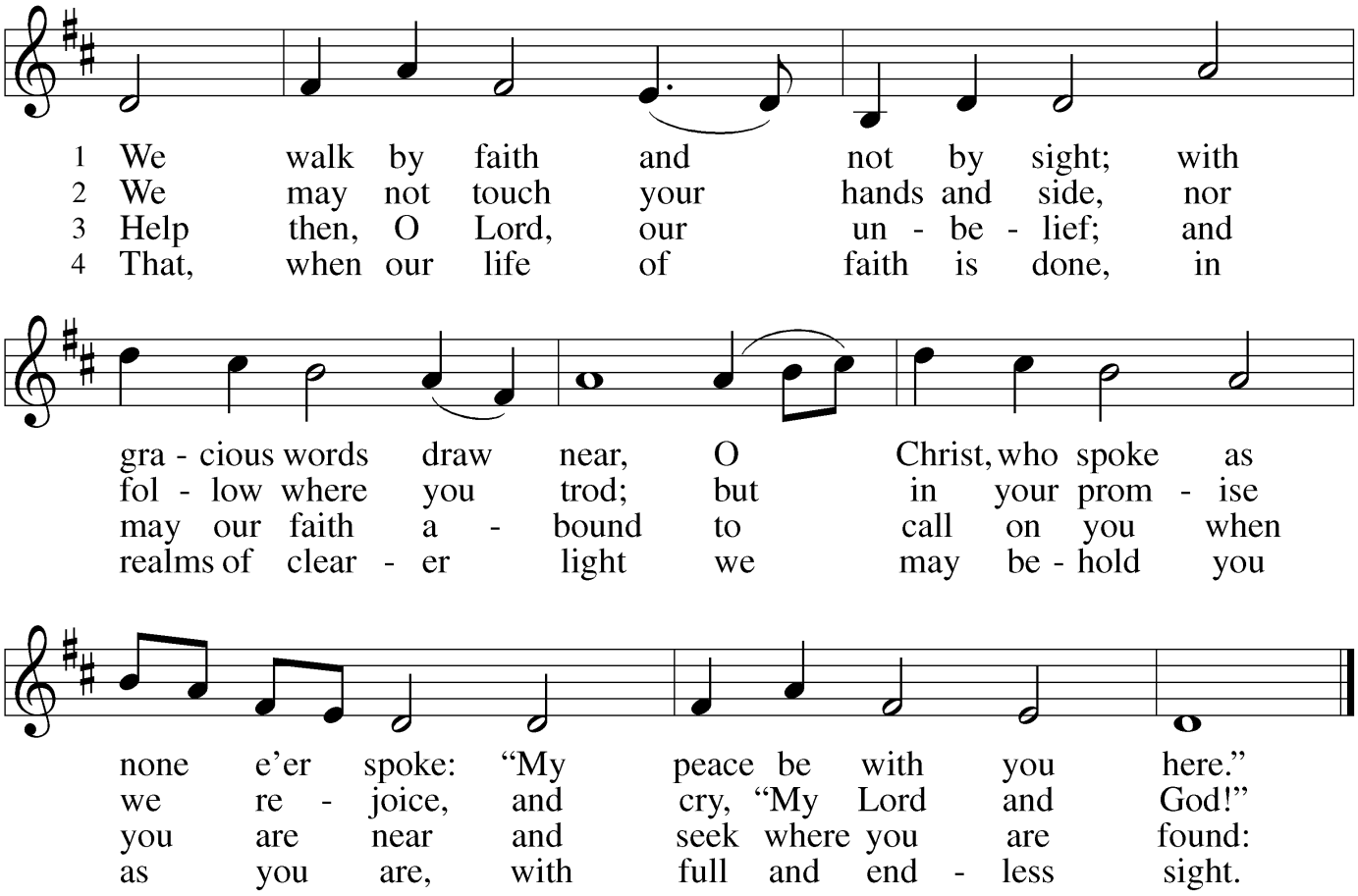
Youngsters leave for the music/activity in the Music/Education room.

SERMON — Rev. Joshua Rinas

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY WOV 675

"We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight"



Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.
Music: DUNLAP'S CREEK, Samuel McFarland, fl. 1816

CREED

P: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

---

*Or, "who proceeds from the Father." The phrase "and the Son" is a later addition to the creed.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

A: Almighty God, you give life to the dead and call into existence things that do not exist. Breathe your Spirit upon us, that our faith may be renewed day by day. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.
A: Maker of heaven and earth, your mercies are new every morning. Open us to the wonders of creation, from the beauty of flowers to the complexity of subatomic particles. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

A: God of peace, in every place where conflict rages, sow seeds of calm and openness to reconciliation. Strengthen the resolve of leaders and citizens to work for peace in their nations. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

A: Healing God, come alongside all who are doubting, fearful, or suffering in any way especially John, Bob, Cora, John, Ed, Craig, Eva, Barb, Suzanne, Eleanor, Dawn, Susan, Elizabeth, Caleb, and Michael. Reveal to them your presence and assure them of the inheritance you have prepared for them. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

A: Giver of joy, let this assembly be a place of genuine love and mutual affection. Deepen our care for one another and help us to embody your forgiving and sacrificial love. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

A: For what else does this congregation pray? Prayers may be said aloud, typed into the live chat box, or silently in your hearts…

Brief Pause for the congregation to respond.

A: Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

A: Eternal One, we give thanks for saints who were faithful unto death and have joined the church triumphant. Inspire us by their witness and bring us with them into your glorious presence. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

A: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
C: Amen.

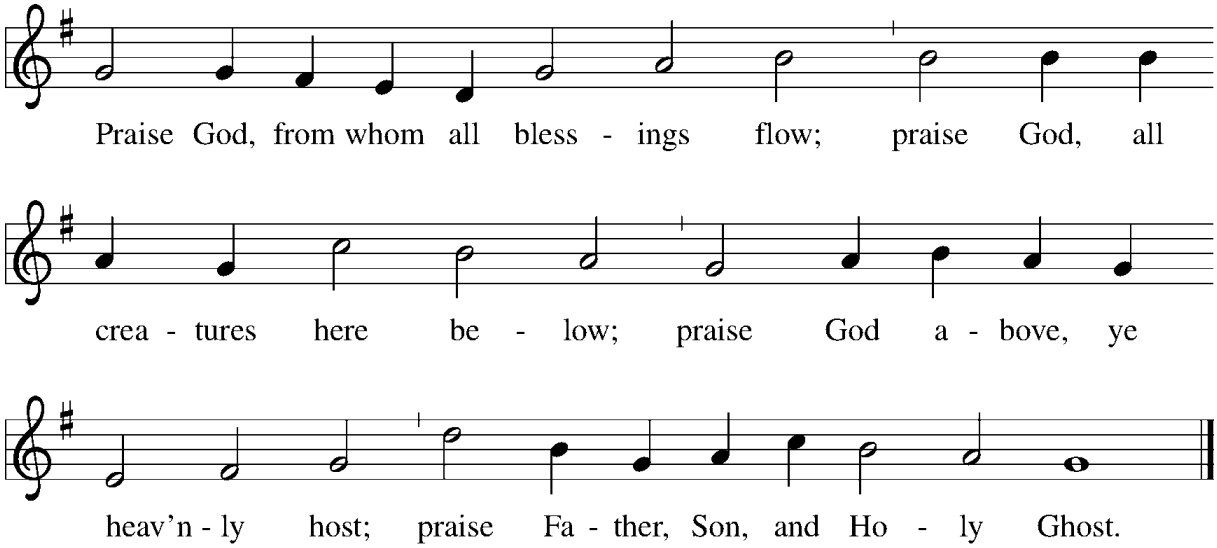
SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.
C: And also with you.

THE MEAL

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN – *"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"*



Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt.
Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

C: Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

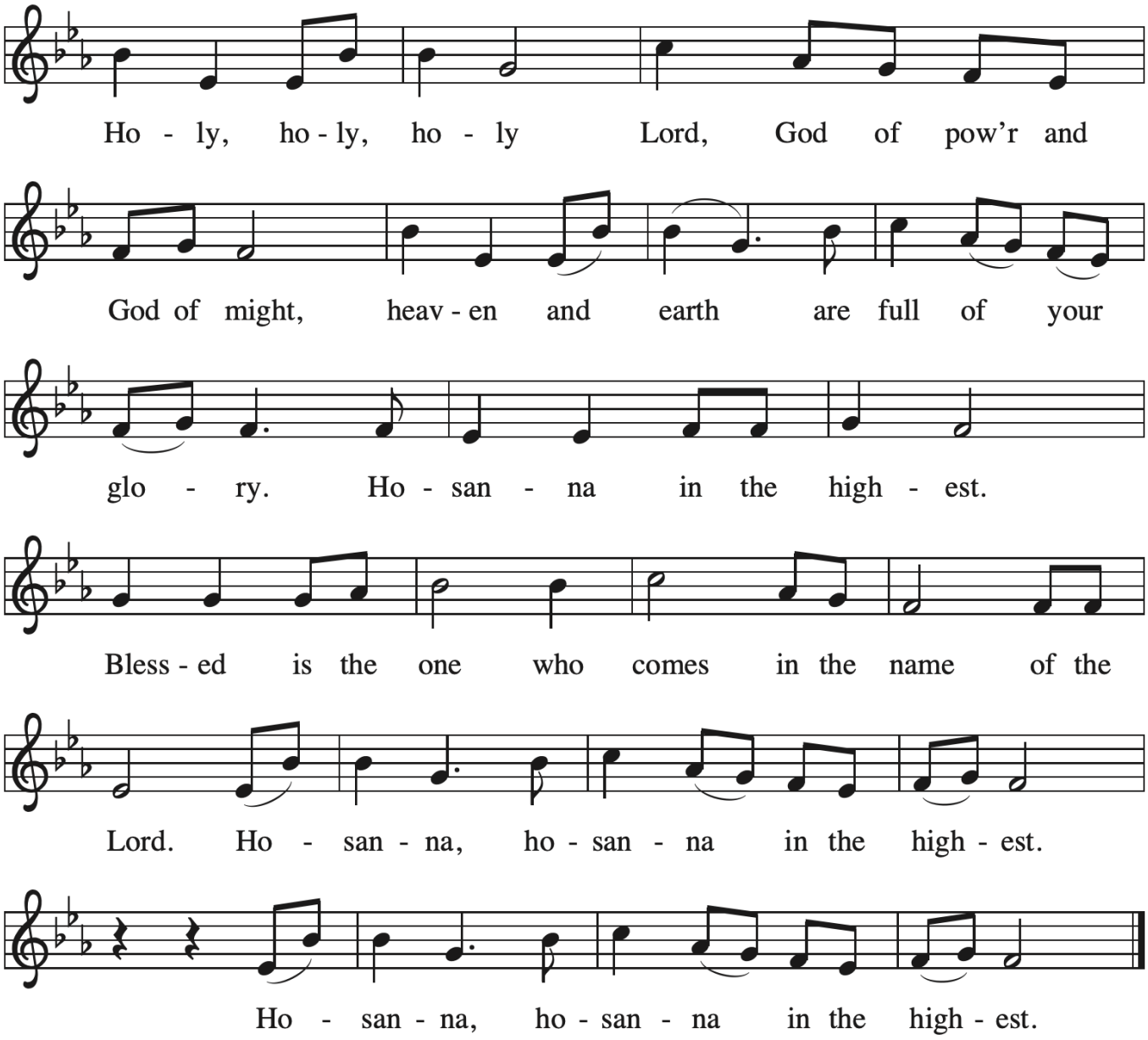
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

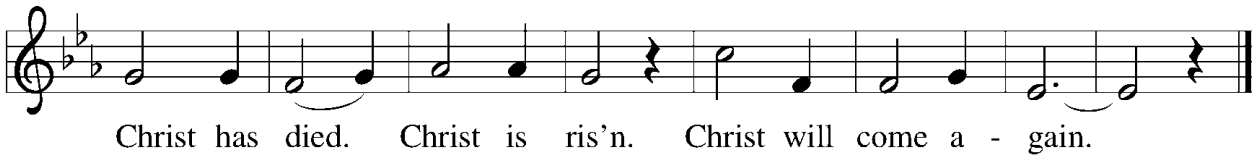
P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

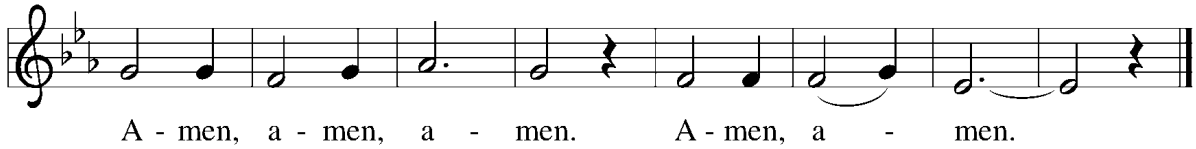


Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937
Adapt. © 1985, 1989 GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com

P: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.
C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of
Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with
justice, peace, and love.
C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.



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LORD'S PRAYER

The presiding minister may introduce the Lord's Prayer.

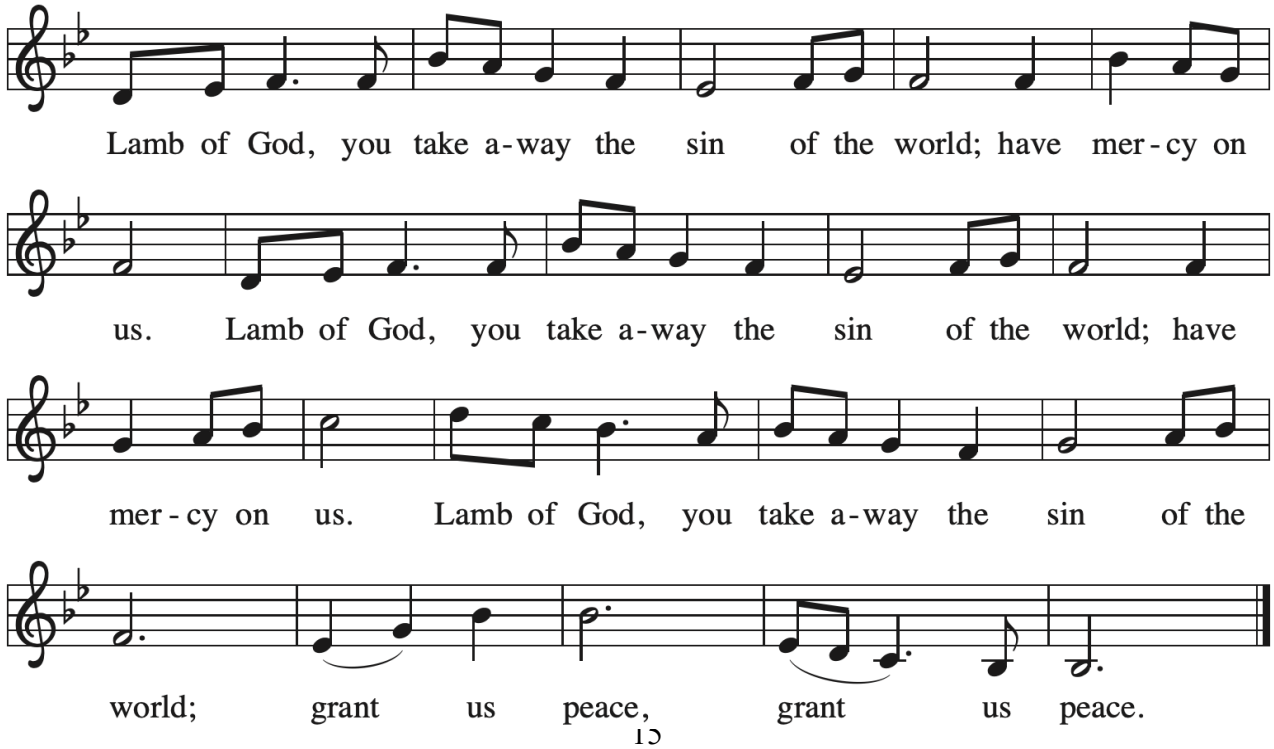
Let us pray together:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION

COMMUNION MUSIC *"Old Rugged Cross"*

Lew Shock, Soloist

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The assisting minister leads one of the following or a similar prayer after communion.

A: Let us pray.

C: Holy One,
through this meal you have made your home among us
and are making all things new.
Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,
to love our enemies,
and to bring your healing to the nations.
In the name of Jesus, Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

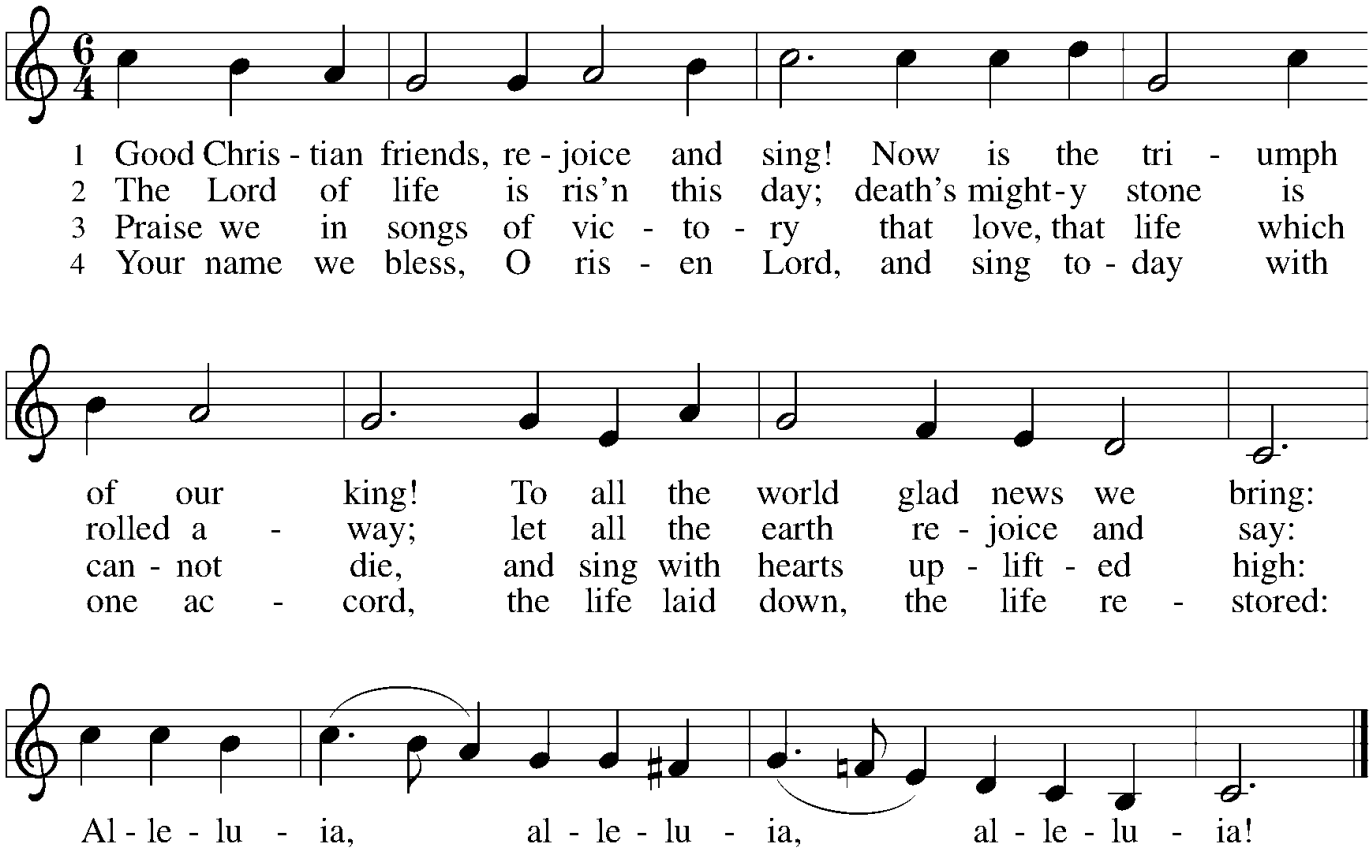
BLESSING

P: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
✠ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN ELW 288

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!"



Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872–1955, alt.
Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpius, 1570–1615
Text © 1958, ren. 1986 *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome! If this is your first time with us, please add your name and information to our Guest book located in the Narthex (Lobby), we would love to connect with you.

*Hearing assistance devices and cushions are available in the back pew. Please help yourself!
*Children's bulletins available, please see an usher.
*Printed copies of the Newsletter are in the magazine holder in the Narthex.
**Christ in Our Home* devotionals (April - June) can be found in the Narthex.
*Hand Sanitizers can be found in the Narthex and hanging at the end of the pews.

Please remember to wear your Name Tag

It's a help for visitors and folks you may not have seen for a while. If you need a new Name tag, please let Jennifer know.

Emmanuel Directory

This is the last chance to get in any changes to your family information for the new directory! Papers can be found in the Narthex for you to fill out with any changes or you can email the church office. **We will not take changes after April 12th.**

Maximizing Affordable Housing Availability in Washtenaw County: Assessing Current Issues and Possibilities

You are invited to attend this event on Affordable Housing on Saturday, April 18, 2026, 8:30-12:30, at Zion Lutheran Church in Ann Arbor, MI, (1501 W. Liberty St.). Speakers will discuss the major factors that have contributed to the rise of the cost of housing in Washtenaw County, and explain how this affects families and individuals seeking housing. Speakers will address what they or their organizations are currently doing in order to make housing more affordable for our neighbors. And will share with us ways in which we, as individuals or as church congregations, can become involved in meaningful ways in helping make housing affordable in areas of Washtenaw County. Please see bulletin board outside the office for more information.

Concert at Emmanuel

April 24th at 6pm: Concert at Emmanuel Featuring 16th-18th century music for the *viola da gamba and voices.* Lily Schrantz, David Hunt, Marc Armitano, Jacob Carroll, and Jamie Gallupe. Reception to follow.

Social Concerns

The Food Pantry is still in need of plastic or paper bags and boxes at least 12 inches x 12 inches x 12 inches but no larger than 14 inches x 14 inches x 14 inches. Shoe boxes are NOT heavy enough. Please leave all donations at the Food Pantry shelves or the Clothes Closet bin (behind the green curtain) in the Gathering area. If donations are left at other areas of the church, including the basement, other groups that meet at the church could make a mess of the donations and cause the volunteers more work cleaning up the mess. The volunteers for the Food Pantry and Clothes Closet are only at the church certain hours on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The scouts meet in the basement on Sunday nights and the kitchen is rented out various days of the week. So please do not leave anything in the basement. Thank you very much!

Food Gatherers Open Position for Food Runner/Driver

This is a full-time position (40hours/week). Typically, Monday – Friday 8am-4pm, but occasional weekends and special events may be required. Wage for this position is $20.00hr. To apply or for more information please visit jobs@foodgatherers.org, Applicants are encouraged to apply early as applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

Financial Progress Report –

Attendance Sunday 4/5/26: 105 (Easter Sunday, Cool and Cloudy)

This past week (March 30 – April 5) we received income of: $5,840

Approved 2026 Budget: $301,796 ***Needed Weekly:*** $5,804

For the month of March we had:

- ***Income:**** $22,090
- ***Expenses:*** $23,823
- ***February Balance:*** $ (1,733)
  - ***Negative March balance due to:***
    - Expenses exceeds income.
    - Ministry Growth Fund March report not yet available.

Jan 1st through March 31st, we had:

- ***Income:**** $99,297
- ***Expenses:*** $74,454
- ***YTD Balance:*** $24,843
  - ***Positive YTD balance due to:***
    - Income exceeds expenses.
    - Some members sending their entire pledge in January.
    - Ministry Growth Fund March report not yet available.

Last year at March 31, 2025, our YTD balance was $30,246. Thank you for your support.

*Income will not include the change in value of the Ministry Growth Fund investment until after the 15th of the following month.

Ways to Give: Giving can be done online by clicking here. Or mail checks to: Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 201 N. River St., Ypsilanti, MI 48198.

Mobile App: Download the Vanco Payments Mobile app for free from Google Play. In the app, select your fund and amount, enter a payment method and complete the donation.

2026 Altar Flower Sign-up

The 2026 Altar flower sign-up is on the bulletin board outside the office. Once you sign-up for your date, put the form and money in the offering plate or office mailbox.

Assisting Ministers Needed!

Sign up on the sheet outside the office or call the office, Or through sign-up genius. Click here or Scan QR code

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Craft and Game Night Coming up Friday, May 8th

Join together for an evening of fun playing and crafting together; come when you can from 5:30-9:00pm. Bring an hors d' oeuvre to share along with your favorite games and craft supplies. See Sophie Overstreet, Cassie & Dallas Klages, and Linda Wilber with questions.

Call Committee Update

About a month ago the Call Committee (CC) began meeting with the Transition Team (TT) to complete the Ministry Site Profile (MSP). The MSP draws heavily on the work of the TT. The MSP is the document that when submitted, essentially starts the call process. The MSP has been submitted to the Synod and the process has started this week. The call process is just that, a process. Since the CC is just beginning its work there is little to report. Pastor Jennifer Kiefer , the Call Process Administrator, will be meeting with us this coming Tuesday, 14 April to go over the next steps. I cannot emphasize enough that this is a multi-step process that will take a longer time than you might think. For now, know that the 9 people on the CC are working with the Synod and meeting every week to keep the process going. Please keep us in your prayers and we will continue to provide updates. Fred Hoitash, CC Chair

THIS WEEK AT EMMANUEL

Sunday, April 12 – Second Sunday of Easter

- Handbell Choir 8:45am
- **Worship 10:00am**
- Coffee Hour 11:00am – Noon
- Scouts 6:00pm

Tuesday, April 14

- Food Gatherers delivery
- Transition Team Mtg. 6:00pm

Wednesday, April 15

- Clothes Closet 9:00am – 10:30am
- Quilting 11:00am – 1:00pm
- **Bible Study 12:30pm – 2:00pm**
- Food Pantry 3:00pm – 5:00pm
- AA Meeting 8:00pm – 9:00pm

Thursday, April 16

- Reach for the Stars Exercise Class 9:30am
- Refresh Committee 10:30am – 12:00pm
- YCC 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Friday, April 17

- NA Meeting 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Sunday, April 19 – Third Sunday of Easter

- Handbell Choir 8:45am
- Chancel Choir 9:30am
- **Worship 10:00am**
- Coffee Hour 11:00am – Noon
- **COUNCIL MEETING**
- Scouts 6:00pm

The flowers on the altar today are given to the Glory of God.

For those with young children: Emmanuel's "Pray-Ground" is located at the front of the church. We welcome and encourage families with children to use this area; where your children can quietly play with soft toys, books, and do arts and crafts. Please don't worry about noise—worship leaders have microphones!

Prayers requested for: John, Bob, Cora, John, Ed, Craig, Eva, Barb, Suzanne, Eleanor, Dawn, Susan, Elizabeth, Caleb, and Michael.

Links:
Livestream Worship - https://www.youtube.com/@emmanuelypsi
Giving Online - Online donation
Clothes Closet - ClothesCloset@emmanuelypsi.org
Food Pantry - FoodPantry@emmanuelypsi.org

Serving in Worship:
Interim Pastor..... *Rev. Joshua Rinas*
Minister of Worship Music..... *David Meitzler*
Minister of Choral Conducting..... *Jamie Gallupe*
Assisting Minister..... *Fred Hoitash*

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OUR VISION

EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, WE STRIVE TO MANIFEST CHRIST'S EXAMPLE AS AN INCLUSIVE, VISIBLE, DYNAMIC BODY OF FAITH.

WE ARE COMMITTED TO SERVING THE VULNERABLE AND FOSTERING HOPE.

WE WILL GROW IN ENTHUSIASTIC DISCIPLESHIP AS WE WORSHIP, WELCOME, SERVE, AND STUDY.

You are welcome to connect to our wi-fi network – Emmanuel Guests

Contact us at info@emmanuelypsi.org
Or call us at 734-482-7121

Visit us at www.EmmanuelYpsi.org
Or @emmanuelypsi on Facebook